Amount to Orissa for forest conservation

1879. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to release Rs. 67 crores to the State of Orissa for forest conservation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government have made a request for speedy clearance of their pending project proposals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, indicating the time-frame within which these would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) The State Government of Orissa has submitted an Action Plan for utilization of Rs. 67.90 crore for the year 2007-08 out of the funds deposited by the State Government in the Compensatory. Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA). These funds have been collected on account of diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act,1980 and are meant for conservation and development of forests and wildlife.

In compliance of the order dated 29.10.2002 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P. (C) No. 202 of 1995, the Ministry of Environment and Forests had issued a Notification dated 23.04.2004 for constitution CAMPA. The process of obtaining Cabinet approval to the CAMPA Notification is under way. The funds deposited in CAMPA can be considered for utilization only after obtaining the Cabinet approval to the CAMPA Notification.

Conservation of mangroves

1880. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the competent authority had examined the project proposal submitted in February, 2006 and revised project proposal during November, 2006 for conservation of sacred mangroves in Kerala by the competent authority of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Government of Kerala has submitted the Management Action Plans for conservation and management of mangroves at Kannur and Vembanad in July, 2006.

The Management Action Plan for Kannur has already been sanctioned on 31.7.2006 by the Ministry at a total cost of Rs. 49.21/- lakhs and that for Vembanad

on 03.08.2006 for Rs. 51.25/- lakhs for implementation by the State Government during 2006-07. Further, on the request of the State Government of Kerala, the unspent balance of Rs. 11.32/- Lakhs as on 31.03.2007 in case of Vembanad has also been revalidated for utilization during the current financial year.

E-waste of hazardous chemicals

1881. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India spews about 146000 tonnes of e-waste annually, most of which are hazardous chemicals;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as per Governments records, Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata and Delhi alone generate about 29,000 tonnes of e-waste annually;

(c) if so, apart from implementation of anti-pollution law, whether Government have any proposal for establishing recycling of wastes;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) whether Government have any plan to launch any public awareness programmes on e-waste and e-waste disposal in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) Based on a survey conducted under the guidance of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), it has been estimated that about 1,46,000 tonnes of such Waste from Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) is generated annually. The major e-waste is generated in the big cities such as Delhi, Mumbai and others.

The Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests have notified the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 1989 as amended in 2000 and 2003 which includes e-waste.

The residues and wastes generated from the operations in electronic industry are considered as hazardous wastes and are listed at Sl. No. 31 of Schedule 1 of these rules. Further, the export and import of e-waste is regulated under Schedule 3 of these rules, as Electrical, and Electronics Assemblies are covered in Categories A1180 and B1110. The import of wastes under this category is only permitted for direct reuse and not for recycling or final disposal.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests has no proposal for setting up recycling facilities by the Government. Some entrepreneurs/agencies have shown interest in setting up e-waste recycling facilities. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has formulated "Draft Guidelines for Environmentally Sound Management of E-Waste" for the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees of the Union Territories and the industries for handling e-waste. These draft Guidelines are available on CPCB's website *www.cpcb.nic.in.* for comments and suggestions. A Task Force has been constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests for finalization of these guidelines.